

REMARKS

Claims 1-27 were examined in the non-final office action dated April 09 2007 (“Outstanding Office Action”). Applicants note with appreciation that claims 5, 6, 12, 13, 18, 19, and 24-27 were indicated to contain allowable subject matter.

5 By virtue of this amendment, claims 14 is sought to be amended. The amendment is believed not to introduce new matter and its entry is respectfully requested. Reconsideration is respectfully requested with respect to the rejected claims further in view of the below remarks.

Claim Objections

10 Claims 14-19 were objected to, suggesting replacing the word “carrying” with - storing-. Claim 14 is sought to be amended accordingly and withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

15 Claims 1-2,7-9,14-15, and 20-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) allegedly as being anticipated by US Patent Number 6,704,295 issued to Tari *et al* (hereafter “Tari”). Applicants respectfully traverse.

20 For example, previously presented claim 1 recites, among other features, “... a gateway device connected to a plurality of communication paths providing connection with corresponding networks, a search utility ... enabling the retrieval of ... a forwarding information... specifying one of said plurality of communication paths to forward said packet”.

Thus, the retrieved forwarding information specifies one of the communication paths on which to forward a packet.

25 At least the portions relied upon by the Examiner in the Outstanding Office Action do not teach or reasonably suggest such a feature.

In particular, the Examiner equates the port number in the address conversion table of Figure 22 of Tari with the claimed forwarding information. Indeed the port number there (i.e., Tari) does not specify a communication path.

The port number there is merely the UDP/TCP port number, which specifies the session/application to which a packet needs to be delivered once the packet is delivered to the target system identified by the destination IP address. In support of the assertion, Applicants first direct the Examiner's attention to the some relevant portions of Tari:

The registration authentication section 414-n, in response to a registration authentication request sent from the mobile terminal 403-n to connect to the radio server 401-n, judges whether or not the mobile terminal 403-n belongs to its own network or to another network. If it is judged that it belongs to another network, the registration authentication section 414-n further: (1) requests IP address of the mobile terminal 403-n and IP addresses and **port numbers of various servers such as HTTP server, DNS server, and mail server** from another radio server 401-n' to which the mobile terminal 403-n belongs (referred to as the home radio server hereinbelow), when the mobile terminal 403-n itself does not have its own IP address and IP addresses and port numbers of various function servers and receives such data. (2) when the mobile terminal 403-n has its own IP address and IP addresses and port numbers of various function servers, it receives IP address of the mobile terminal 403-n and IP addresses and port numbers of various servers such as HTTP server, DNS server, and mail server from the mobile terminal 403-n.
(Lines 7-29 of Col. 22 of Tari, **Emphasis Added**)

From the above, it is asserted that the port numbers of Tari are merely TCP/UDP port numbers (which identify end applications/sessions).

The values shown in Figure 22 of Tari are consistent with this interpretation. In particular, Figure 22 shows values of 53, 80 and 21 in Port Number column respectively correspond to well known port numbers of Domain Name Server (DNS), HTTP and FTP Control applications implemented on the respective servers. For further information on well known port numbers, see for example, the document at the below URL:

http://www.webopedia.com/quick_ref/portnumbers.asp

At least for the above reason, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) with respect to claim 1 is respectfully requested. Claims 2-7 depend from claim 1 and are thus

allowable at least for the reasons noted above.

Previously presented independent claim 8 is also allowable over Tari at least for one or more of above reasons in reciting that, "... a plurality of communication paths, wherein each communication path provides connection with a corresponding network; ... searching
5 enabling the retrieval of ... a forwarding information ... specifying one of said plurality of communication paths to forward said packet;...".

Claims 9-13 depend from claim 8 and are thus allowable at least for the reasons noted above.

Currently amended independent claim 14 is also allowable over Tari at least for one
10 or more of above reasons in reciting that, "... a plurality of communication paths providing connection with corresponding networks, ... said search utility enabling the retrieval of ... a forwarding information ... specifies one of said plurality of communication paths to forward said packet;...".

Claims 15-19 depend from claim 14 and are thus allowable at least for the reasons
15 noted above.

Previously presented independent claim 20 is allowable over Tari at least for one or more of above reasons in reciting that, "... a plurality of ports, each of said plurality of ports being coupled to a corresponding one of a plurality of communication paths providing connection with a corresponding network; ... a forwarding information ... specifying one of
20 said plurality of communication paths to forward said packet;...".

Claims 21-27 depend from claim 20 and are thus allowable at least for the reasons noted above.

Conclusion

Thus, all the objections and rejections are believed to be overcome, and that all the presented claims are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative if it is believed that an interview might be useful for any reason.

Date: July 7, 2007

Respectfully submitted,
/Narendra Reddy Thappeta/

Signature

Printed Name: Narendra Reddy Thappeta

Attorney for Applicant

Registration Number: 41,416